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SIPDIS

STATE FOR INR/R/MR, NEA/PPD, NEA/PPA, NEA/AGS, INR/IZ, INR/P

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OPRC](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [IZ](#)

SUBJECT: DAILY IRAQI WEBSITE MONITORING - September 22, 2005

SUMMARY: Discussion on the constitutional referendum was the major editorial theme of Iraqi, Arabic language websites on September 22, 2005. END SUMMARY.

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SELECTED COMMENTARIES

[1A](#). "Iraq. What Is After the Constitution?"
(Editorial by Karim Al-Hazaa - Al-Jeeran -
http://www.aljeeran.net/viewarticle.php?id=22_823&pg=articles
)

"Here, in the Arab homeland, laws are similar to a spider's web, where small birds are hunted while large birds can escape. There are many countries that have constitutions and laws but they are ineffective due to the absence of monitorial institutions and political freedoms. In addition, the community does not have a clue about what is going on behind the scenes. This is the ignorance of the state and individual.

"In Iraq, we have many difficult questions. We want to know if the new Iraqi constitution will become a phenomenon throughout the Arab homeland and the Middle East. Will globalization and the new texts of constitutions be advantageous for Iraq? Will the complexity of ego and identity result in Iraq's isolation?

"There are many voices that fear dilution due to internal problems. Those voices argue whether or not Iraq is an Arab or Islamic country. Is Iraq going to be free of all this supervision so that it can breathe freely? Is Iraq destined to be forever subjected to evil? Mahatma Gandhi said that refusing to cooperate with evil is more important than cooperating with good. For this reason, we say men should ask themselves if they are cooperating with evil. The question is still unanswered. What will happen to Iraq after the constitution?"

[1B](#). "Voting Yes on the Constitution Is a Weapon Against Its Rejecters"
(Editorial by Showki Al-E'isa - Soat Al-Iraq -
http://www.sotaliraq.com/articles-iraq/nieuws_.php?id=15906)

"Iraq is heading towards a constitutional referendum that guarantees all rights and freedoms for Iraqi people - rights and freedoms that were previously absent under tyrannical governments. After successfully passing through all previous political stages, we have reached the constitutional referendum. We should vote for this constitution to thwart all schemes and conspiracies against our people. We should make our "Yes" for the constitution, a giant hammer to use against those who issue fatwas, those who campaign against the constitution, and those who are turning this country into chaos.

"Iraqis have become accustomed to these cries and sounds before approaching any new stage; during this stage talented and qualified people should call for Iraqis to make Iraq's constitution successful; this requires that people vote for it. This is a political battle in which the average Iraqi should engage before savvy politicians do because it is for the future, will, and prosperity of the people. We need to study the constitution, including its principles and freedoms; after that we can decide to reject it or accept it.

"The constitution guarantees men, women, and children rights. It prevents tyranny and it prevents Ba'athists from joining the political scene. It allows Iraqis to play a role in running their own affairs and allows them to enjoy their resources and wealth. And it protects minorities. This is Iraq's constitution. How can we vote against it? It is Iraq's true protection that will smash the heads of those hypocrites who reject it. We will vote yes, yes for the

constitution..."

KHALILZAD